

67/1

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/786,660

Examiner

Phillip A. Johnston

Applicant(s)

IOANNOU ET AL.

Art Unit

2881

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed 4-3-2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-10 and 12-22.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 12-2005; 2-2006
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

Detailed Action

1. This Office Action is submitted in response to the amendment filed 4-03-2006, wherein claims 11 and 23-27 have been canceled and claim 1 has been amended. Claims 1-10, and 12-22 are pending

2. The Examiner agrees with the arguments presented in the Remarks filed 4-03-2006 regarding the cited prior arts lack of disclosure describing a second actuator comprising a servo motor fixedly mounted to the first link, and thereby withdraws both rejections in the Office Action mailed 12-12-2005.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1-10, and 12-22 are allowed

Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

4. Claim 1 is allowed because prior art fails to show a scanning apparatus for processing a substrate, the scanning apparatus comprising: a base portion, and a rotary subsystem comprising: a first link comprising a first joint, wherein the first link is rotatably coupled to the base portion by the first joint; a second link comprising a second joint, wherein the second link is rotatably coupled to the first link by the second joint, and wherein the first joint and the second joint are spaced a predetermined

distance from one another, the second link further comprising an end effector whereon the substrate resides, wherein the end effector is operably coupled to the second link, and wherein the end effector is further spaced from the second joint by the predetermined distance, a first actuator operable to continuously rotate the first link about the first joint in a first rotational direction, and a second actuator operable to continuously rotate the second link about the second joint in a second rotational direction, wherein the second actuator comprises a servo motor fixedly mounted to the first link, and wherein the end effector is operable to linearly oscillate with respect to the base portion along a first scan path upon the rotation of the first and second actuators.

5. Claims 2-10, and 12-22 are allowed by virtue of their dependency upon allowed claim 1.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

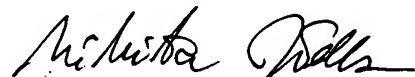
Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications should be directed to Phillip Johnston whose telephone number is (571) 272-2475. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 6:30 am to 3:00 pm. If attempts to

reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiners supervisor John Lee can be reached at (571) 272-2477. The fax phone number for the organization where the application or proceeding is assigned is 571 273 8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

PJ
May 22, 2006


NIKITA WELLS
PRIMARY EXAMINER
05/26/06